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SUBJECT: ANTAKYA THREE

FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN NEW YORK TIMES, APRIL 28,
1974:

BEGIN QUOTE JAILED AMERICANS' CASE CAUGHT IN U.S.-
TURKEY DEBATE. BY STEVEN V. ROBERTS, SPECIAL TO THE NEW
YORK TIMES. ANKARA, TURKEY, APRIL 27. THE FATE OF THREE
AMERICANS SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT HERE FOR
SMUGGLING HASHISH HAS BECOME ENTANGLED IN THE GROWING CON-
FLICT BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE UNITED STATES OVER TURKEY'S
DECISION TO RESUME CULTIVATION OF OPIUM POPPIES.

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AN APPEALS COURT YESTERDAY UPHELD THE LIFE SENTENCES

IMPOSED BY A LOWER COURT LAST DECEMBER ON KATHERINE ZENZ, 28 YEARS OLD, OF LANCASTER, WISCONSIN, JOANN MCDANIEL, 29, OF COOS BAY, OREGON, AND ROBERT HUBBARD, 23, A DRIFTER FROM SAN DIEGO, WITH NO PERMANENT ADDRESS. THE THREE HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH.

THE DECISION JUST ABOUT ENDED THEIR CHANCES OF REVERSING THEIR CONVICTION. BUT THEIR LAWYER, FARUK EREM, CALLED THE JUDGMENT "UNJUSTIFIED" AND SAID HE HAD ONE FINAL RECOURSE: TO ASK TURKEY'S CHIEF PROSECUTOR TO RECONSIDER

THE CASE, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE APPEAL COURT, AS A "CORRECTION OF JUDGMENT."

THE THREE PRISONERS AND FOUR OTHER AMERICAN WOMEN WERE ARRESTED IN DECEMBER, 1972, WHILE TRYING TO CROSS INTO TURKEY FROM SYRIA. THE POLICE FOUND 265 POUNDS OF HASHISH IN THE CEILINGS OF THE GROUP'S THREE MINIBUSES.

MR. HUBBARD HAS ALWAYS INSISTED THE WOMEN DID NOT KNOW THE DRUGS WERE THERE, AND ON THE BASIS OF HIS TESTIMONY, FOUR OF THEM WERE CLEARED. BUT TURKISH OFFICIALS SAID MISS ZENZ AND MISS MCDANIEL WERE STILL RESPONSIBLE BECAUSE THEY HAD RENTED THE MINIBUSES WITH MR. HUBBARD, AND WERE DRIVING AT THE TIME OF THE SEIZURE.

MR. EREM, ONE OF TURKEY'S MOST PROMINENT LAWYERS, SAYS HE THINKS THE WOMEN ARE INNOCENT.

WELL-INFORMED SOURCES HERE BELIEVE THAT THE CASE HAS BEEN INFLUENCED BY UNITED STATES PRESSURE ON TURKEY NOT TO RESUME THE CULTIVATION OF OPIUM POPPIES, THE RAW MATERIAL FOR HEROIN.

TURKEY BANNED THE CROP TWO YEARS AGO IN RETURN FOR A COMPENSATION FROM THE UNITED STATES. THE NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT OF PREMIER BULENT ECEVIT, HOWEVER, ANNOUNCED LAST MONTH THAT CULTIVATION HAD BEEN RESUMED IN STATE FARMS.

TURKEY INSISTS THAT IT CAN PREVENT THE SMUGGLING OF OPIUM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO ILLEGAL CHANNELS, THE SOURCES SAID.

MOREOVER, TURKISH OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT THE AMERICANS ARE APPLYING A "DOUBLE STANDARD," ASKING TURKEY TO CRACK DOWN ON SMUGGLING, BUT PLEADING FOR LENIENCY WHEN ITS OWN NATIONALS GET INTO TROUBLE.

'VICTIMS OF CONFLICT'. THE AMERICANS ARE "VICTIMS OF

THIS CONFLICT," SAID ONE KNOWLEDGEABLE TURKISH JOURNALIST.
"THE JUDICIARY HERE IS INDEPENDENT, BUT IT HAS TO BE
INFLUENCED BY THE ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND TURKEY, AND THAT ATMOSPHERE IS GETTING TENSER AND
TENSER."

PRIVATELY, AMERICAN DIPLOMATS CALL THE SENTENCE ON THE
WOMEN "OUTRAGEOUS." PUBLICLY THEY POINT OUT THAT
TURKISH LAW MAKES NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN HARD DRUGS LIKE
HEROIN, AND SOFT DRUGS LIKE HASHISH, MADE FROM THE
CANNABIS PLANT.

THE TWO WOMEN AND 15 OTHER YOUNG AMERICANS IMPRISONED
HERE FOR VARIOUS DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES, COULD BENEFIT
FROM AN AMNESTY BILL NOW BEING DRAFTED BY THE TURKISH
LEGISLATURE. BUT THAT AT BEST, WOULD ONLY REDUCE THE
LIFE SENTENCES TO 24 YEARS.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAY THEY CAN PROVIDE "SPIRITUAL AND
PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT," BUT WHEN ASKED IF THERE WERE
ANY LEGAL AVENUES OPEN, ONE OFFICIAL ANSWERED, "NO, I
DON'T THINK SO."

IT'S AGAINST THE AMERICAN STORYTELLING GRAIN," MISS ZENZ
ONCE WROTE TO HER PARENTS, "TO HAVE SOMEONE IN A SITUA-
TION HE CAN'T GET OUT OF. THIS ISN'T A STORY--IT'S
REAL LIFE. HOW WILL I GET OUT OF THIS ONE?"
END QUOTE. RUSH

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